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RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
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E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/16/2019  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PARM](#) [PTER](#) [MASS](#) [KPAL](#) [EG](#)  
SUBJECT: EGYPT: COUNTER SMUGGLING UPDATE

REF: A. CAIRO 2249

[1](#)B. IIR 6 899 0124 10

[1](#)C. IIR 6 899 0111 10

[1](#)D. CAIRO 1350 Classified By: Ambassador Margaret Scobey per 1.4 (b) and (d).

- [1](#)1. Key Points: -- (S/NF) Egypt increased its efforts to combat smuggling over the last several months, including beginning installation of a s
- [1](#)2. (S/NF) Comment: Anecdotal evidence from contacts in northern Sinai (ref A) and press reports seem to indicate that Egypt's increased effort
- [1](#)3. (S/NF) Since resuming installation of the FMF-funded Border Tunnel Activity and Detection System (BTADS) in November, the process of drilli
- [1](#)4. (S/NF) Damage to FMF-provided video cameras, however, has significantly reduced Egypt's ability to exploit or map these tunnels. Every came
- [1](#)5. (S/NF) It is unknown who inflicted the damage or why. The cameras were under the control of MOD's Tunnel Detection Unit, but the Border Gue
- [1](#)6. (S/NF) In addition to ensuring an investigation into the damaged equipment, OMC is also working with MOD to submit a letter of request for
- [1](#)7. (S/NF) In December, the Egyptian military began constructing a subterranean steel wall along the Egypt-Gaza border. The wall is an MOD-init
- [1](#)8. (S/NF) International, regional and local press have recently begun reporting on the project, generating criticism that Egypt is complicit i